

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 648
By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Leslie R. Hobbs of
Warren County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Leslie Hobbs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hobbs was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Leslie Hobbs served with acumen and alacrity as the founder and president of Warren County Nursery, Inc., in which position he earned the respect of his peers, customers, and clients alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hobbs attended school in Grundy County and enrolled in the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1941 at the young age of seventeen. He was inducted into the United States Navy in March 1943, serving as a Gunner Mate 3rd Class on the USS Kite, USN TS Newport, NTS Bainbridge, and USS Severn throughout his two-and-a-half-year tenure with the military; and

WHEREAS, after his service in the Navy, Leslie Hobbs worked at Kingsboro Silk Mill and returned to school under the G.I. Bill; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, Mr. Hobbs established Warren County Nursery, Inc., with a \$2,000 investment, two acres of land, and a 12 x 20 foot building. The business was incorporated in 1970, with Leslie Hobbs being named president, and his wife, Frances, secretary-treasurer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hobbs semi-retired in 1989, became chairman of the board, and conferred the operation of the nursery to four of his children: Richard, Michael, Jeff, and Elaine. Frances Hobbs continues to serve the corporation as secretary; and

WHEREAS, an active member of his community and its politics, Mr. Hobbs represented his Irving College constituents on the Warren County Commission from 1966 to 1986, proudly

working to expand utility districts in rural areas and serving on the highway, bridge, and airport committees; and

WHEREAS, Leslie Hobbs was voted lifetime membership in Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5064 and was honored by the McMinnville Jaycees as Boss of the Year in 1979; and

WHEREAS, a past president of the Tennessee Nurseryman's Association, Mr. Hobbs was named "Tennessee Wholesale Nurseryman of the Year" in 1985 by a statewide industry group of his peers. He received honorary membership status in the SNA, TNA, and MTNA; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hobbs was an active and devout member of the Hebron Church of Christ, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Leslie Hobbs was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hobbs enjoyed the loving companionship of Frances Panter Hobbs and was the proud father of Richard, Michael, Phillip, Jeffery, and Elaine; and

WHEREAS, Leslie Hobbs leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Leslie R. Hobbs, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Hobbs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.